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NAME _____ **DATE** _____

Connah's Quay.
10th. July, 1950.



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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

10th. July, 1950.

To the Chairman & Members of the
Urban District Council of Connah's Quay,

Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present this, my first annual report, on the health of the population of Connah's Quay for the year 1949.

I would like, Ladies and Gentlemen, to call your attention to the generally satisfactory state of health in Connah's Quay in comparison to that obtaining in England and Wales as a whole.

Firstly, the birth rate, though showing a fall from 23.4 per 1,000 of the population in 1948 to 20.6 per 1,000 of the population in 1949, is still high compared with the rate for England and Wales, the comparative figures for which were 17.9 in 1948 and 16.7 in 1949.

Secondly, Infantile mortality at 25.9 per 1,000 live births has fallen from 41.4 in 1948. In that year the infantile mortality rate in Connah's Quay was higher than for England and Wales, when the rate was 34.0. The rate for England and Wales in 1949 is 32.0 per 1,000 live births.

The death rate for England and Wales has risen from 10.8 per 1,000 in 1948 to 11.7 per 1,000 in 1949, whereas in Connah's Quay the rate has fallen from 8.7 in 1948 to 8.3.

There were 2 deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis, a rate of .27 per 1,000 of the population, compared with a rate for England and Wales of .45.

As to the other causes of death, it will be noticed that cancer (all forms) accounted for 14 of the 62 deaths, and was the second principal cause of death, heart diseases being the cause in 19 cases.

I wish to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their help and consideration in my period of initiation, also, but for the loyal co-operation of your Sanitary Inspector, and indeed all the Council's Officers, my task would have been a much heavier one.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) A. CATHCART.

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

<u>Area.</u>	4,218 acres.
<u>Population.</u>	7,455 (Estimated)
<u>Rateable Value.</u>	£42,386.
<u>Product of Penny Rate.</u>	£164.

Social Conditions.

The Urban District of Connah's Quay is on the West bank of the River Dee, and towards the East of the County of Flint. Climatic conditions are reasonably good throughout the year, and usually mild in character during all seasons, particularly in the winter months, making the district a healthy one to live in.

Vital Statistics.

	<u>1948.</u>			<u>1949.</u>		
<u>Total of Live Births.</u>	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
	88	81	169.	76	78	154.
Legitimate.	84	76	} 169	76	76	} 154.
Illegitimate.	4	5		-	2	
<u>Total of Still Births.</u>	1	1	2.	4	1	5.
Legitimate.	1	1	} 2	3	1	} 5
Illegitimate.	-	-		1	-	

<u>Birth Rate per 1,000 Population.</u>	<u>1948.</u>	<u>1949.</u>
Connah's Quay.	23.4	20.6
England and Wales.	17.9	16.7
Illegitimate Births per 1,000 Live Births.		
Connah's Quay.	53.2	12.9

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Population.

Connah's Quay.	.27	.67
England and Wales.	.42	.39

<u>Deaths of Infants under one year of age.</u>	M.	F.	M.	F.
	5	2	1	3

Rate per 1,000 live Births.

Connah's Quay.	41.4	25.9
England and Wales.	34.0	32.0

Death All Causes.

Death rate per 1,000 Population.

Connah's Quay.	8.7	8.3
England and Wales.	10.8	11.7

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF BIRTH RATES.

<u>Year.</u>	<u>Connah's Quay Area.</u>	<u>England and Wales.</u>
1941	22.1	14.2
1942	18.8	15.8
1943	23.5	16.5
1944	23.1	17.6
1945	24.6	-
1946	-	19.1
1948	23.4	17.9
1949	20.6	16.7

DEATHS.

	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Number of deaths from all causes.	32	30	62
Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis			-
Other puerperal causes.			
Maternal death rate per 1,000 total births.			-
Deaths from Cancer {all ages}	8	6	14
Deaths from Measles {all ages}	-	-	-
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	-	-	-

Comparative Table of Death Rate.

<u>Year.</u>	<u>Area.</u>	<u>England and Wales.</u>
1941	7.8	12.9
1942	8.6	11.6
1943	7.1	12.1
1944	7.2	11.6
1945	9.4	-
1946	8.5	11.5
1947	-	12.0
1948	8.7	10.8
1949	8.3	11.7

DEATHS 1949.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Pulmonary T.B.	2	-	2
Other forms of T.B.	-	-	-
Cancer of Stomach & Duodenum.	-	-	-
Cancer of Breast.	-	3	3
Cancer of other sites.	7	2	9
Buccal Cavity and oesophagus Uterus.	1	1	2
Inter Cranial } Vascular Lesions }	3	4	7
Heart Disease.	5	14	19
Other Diseases of Circulatory System.	-	-	-
Bronchitis.	3	-	3
Influenza.	1	-	1
Diabetis.	-	1	1

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Pneumonia.	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>
Other Respiratory Diseases.	1	1	2
Digestive Diseases.	-	-	-
Nephritis.	-	-	-
Premature Birth.	-	1	1
Diarrhoea under 2 years.	-	1	1
Congenital.	1	-	1
Mal Birth.			
Birth Injuries.			
Suicide.	-	-	-
Road Traffic.	-	-	-
Other violent causes.	3	-	3
All other causes.	<u>4</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4</u>
	<u>32.</u>	<u>30.</u>	<u>62.</u>

SECTION B.

General Provisions of Health Services for the Area.

1. Staff.

Medical Officer of Health - A. Cathcart. M.B.ch.B., D.P.H.
D.T.M. & Hy.

Appointed 1st. July, 1949.

Sanitary Inspector. - W.A. Barker ~~W.A.~~

~~W.A.~~ Also, holds the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary
Institute for Inspector of Meat and other Foods.
Commenced duty as Sanitary Inspector - 11th. July, 1949.

The Medical Officer of Health is also Medical Officer of Health for the Buckley U.D.C., Hawarden R.D.C. and Overton R.D.C. and is also assistant County Medical Officer of Health. The Sanitary Inspector is full time, and is responsible in addition to work under Public Health Acts, for supervision of refuse collection, duties under Food and Drugs Act, Rats and Mice Destruction, Housing Act, 1936 and Shops Act, 1934, and was ^{later} made the Officer responsible for inspection under Factories Act which included responsibility for supervision of means of escape in case of fire. The Sanitary Inspector is responsible for meat inspection at a Ministry of Food abattoir: the abattoir supplies a population of approximately 45,000.

Clerical.

With the exception of typing which is done for the Department there is no administrative and clerical assistance given to the two officers of the Department and the Sanitary Inspector spends a considerable time in keeping records and the routine continuity of the Department.

2. Laboratory Facilities.

Emergency Public Health Laboratory Service, Castle Bank, Conway.
Royal Infirmary, Chester.

3. Nursing in Home.

The nursing of non-infectious sick is carried out by District Nursing Associations. There is no provision for home nursing of the infectious sick.

4. Treatment Centres and Clinics.

Maternity and Child-Welfare at Clinic, Deeside Modern Secondary School, Shotton.

5. Hospitals.

1. Liverpool Hospital Regional Board which includes Chester.
2. North Wales Hospital Board.

SECTION C.

Sanitary Circumstances in the Area.

WATER.

Description of Works.

The waterworks comprise wooded under drained gathering ground of some 12 acres in extent, from which a main drain conveys water to a chemical house and coagulation tanks. From these tanks water passes into two storage reservoirs of 100,000 and 250,000 gallons capacity respectively, and is pumped through two pressure filters and a base exchange type softener to a treated water storage tank of 100,000 gallons capacity. the filtered water is chlorinated en route from the softener to the storage tank. A small booster plant and compressor are also situated at the waterworks to operate the High Level supply. These works owned by this authority supply approximately 50% of the water consumed

Low Level Supply (i.e. water supplied by Connah's Quay U.D.C.) Quality.

During 1948, Chlorinous taste and smell was very noticable in the water which brought protests from certain consumers and up to the end of that year efforts were made to overcome these difficulties.

It was decided to eliminate the source of supply from the Broad Oak Brook owing to its variably heavy contamination, this was done in May and a 6" connection was made to the Birkenhead Aqueduct to replace the water which was lost through the isolation of the Broad Oak Brook. It was also decided to move the point of chlorination from its connection prior to the entrance to the open reservoirs to a point after it had passed through the open reservoirs. This method carried out in conjunction with the isolation of the Broad Oak Brook gave a more palatable water; during the year the Council decided to replenish the softening plant.

Over a score of houses and farms in the district are still without the facilities of a mains supply and it is intended that this should be catered for in a plan submitted to the Ministry under the Rural Water Supplies.

Sampling.

Bacteriological Examination.

Ref.Number p.5046.

Nature of Sample - Filtered and Chlorinated water from Fresh Water Tank, Connah's Quay, 22/8/49 - 9.45.a.m.

Result.

Plate count yeastilagar 3 days 22° aerobically. 5 per ml.
" " " 2 " 37° " 2 per ml.

Probable number of coliform bacilli MacConkey
2 days 37° 0 per 100 ml.

Approximate proportions of faecal and non faecal coli

(a) Faecal Coli)
(b) Non Faecal Coli) 0 per 100 ml.

Ministry of Health Classification - Class I - Highly satisfactory.

Further Samples.

Lab. Ref. No. P2508.	From tap.	30/5/49.	Report Class I
Lab. Ref. No. P2509.	From tap.	30/5/49.	Report Class I
Lab. Ref. No. P1285.	From tap.	12/4/49.	Report Class I
Lab. Ref. No. P 884.	From tap.	22/3/49.	Report Class IV (Unsatisfactory).
Lab. Ref. No. P1284.	From Tap.	12/4/49.	Report Class I

The unsatisfactory classification of - Sample P884 was caused through defective sewage system and defective stop cock to water supply. These defects were both remedied and sample No. P1284 is the follow through sample, which is satisfactory.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The sewage is turned untreated from various outfalls into the River Dee and at present a Consulting Engineer is preparing a Sewage Disposal Scheme for the whole area.

River and Streams.

The outlets of two streams into the river are contiguous with the outlets of the sewerage and at high tide this causes back flooding of the streams with a consequent deposit.. During the year one stream was cleaned.

Closet Accommodation.

There are no earth closets or privy middens in the urban part of the area.

Refuse Collection.

This service is carried out by one vehicle and 4 men, in addition one man divides his time with the refuse vehicle and attending to the tip. The service was developed from an indifferent to an efficient one, and it is possible to maintain a weekly collection with the vehicle and 5 men, with the present number of dwellings if nothing happens to reduce the man power and time. Labour for the work is difficult to obtain as preference is shown for other work. The driver of the vehicle is in charge and assists in the collection.

The vulnerable points in its organisation are:

1. The difficulty of securing labour in case of emergency.
2. Possessing only one driver amongst the personnel,
3. Having only one vehicle for the service.

Regarding 1. is partially solved through permission being given to draw on the personnel of the Surveyor's Department, but the solution to 2. and 3. is another vehicle.

Conditions have arisen due to difficulties when a weekly collection has not been possible.

The tip is situated centrally and is nearing its completion of utility. The tip is well kept and covered with sand as tipping proceeds and is treated with insecticides.

Public Cleansing.

Street Cleansing is carried out satisfactory.

Smoke Abatement.

Smoke nuisance arose from one works an informal approach was made.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

There are no swimming baths and pools in the area. Open air bathing takes place in the River Dee during the summer months. Beach guards are appointed during school holidays to avoid drowning fatalities. The nearest Indoor Swimming Baths is 5 miles away.

Rats and Mice Destruction Act 1919.

Infestation Order.

The Rodent Operator, employed jointly with other Local Authorities carried out disinfection of private premises and land, also a test baiting was carried out on sewers.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Number of houses found infested.

Number of houses disinfested.

Inspections were made for purposes of housing tenancies and where no vermin were actually found, but if the history of conditions warranted supervision these cases were followed through to Council houses and in some cases spraying was carried out in Council house.

SECTION D.

EXISTING HOUSES.

Detailed inspection under the provision of the Housing Act, 1936, were not made, but later in the year some routine inspections were made to obtain the number of houses without water and sink in the house.

There are a fairly large number of houses in the district which are below comparable standard, and some which by their siting and condition there appears to be no alternative but that they should be considered with a view to demolition.

HOUSING.

During the year the Council completed the scheme of 94 houses on the Wepre Estate. Three houses were erected by private enterprise. The total of houses built by the Council, which includes temporary houses, and houses built prior to the late war, is 525.

The total number of permanent type houses built by the Council since the last war is 154. This number gave a figure of 22 per 1,000 of the population and is incidently the highest figure for housing authorities in the County of Flintshire.

The allocations of 1947 and 1948 given to the Council by the respective Ministry were not utilized and neither was the 1949 allocation, but that allocation can be taken over to be added to the 1950 allocation.

The Council have a points scheme and at the end of the year the total of applications was 450. Approximately 50% of the applicants have some degree of overcrowding and the remaining 50% are from married people in rooms, or living communally with parents.

STATISTICAL RECORD FOR YEAR 1949.

	No. of visits.	Informal notices.	Statutory notices.	Abated.
<u>Dwelling Houses.</u>				
Visited.	20	16	6	10
ReInspected.	89			
<u>Verminous Premises.</u>				
Visited.	4			
ReInspected.	4			
<u>Drainage.</u>	28	15		28
ReInspected.	24			
<u>Food Preparing Estab.</u>	10			
ReInspected.	14			
<u>Ice Cream Premises.</u>	14			
ReInspected.	2			
<u>Dust Bins.</u>	18	3	4	7
ReInspected.	9			
<u>Shops.</u>	19	7		6
ReInspected.	3			
<u>Bakehouses.</u>	7	2		1
ReInspected.	2			
<u>Factories & Workshops.</u>	8			
<u>Offices.</u>	1			
<u>Schools.</u>	1			
<u>Refuse.</u>	33			
<u>Misc. Visits.</u>	48	3		3
<u>Tipping - other than Cl.</u>	5	1		1
<u>Abattoir.</u>	87			
<u>Council Tip.</u>	47			
<u>Infectious Diseases.</u>	27			
<u>Rodent Control.</u>	8			
<u>Milk Sampling.</u>	7			
Total	539	47	10	50

SECTION E.

FOOD SUPERVISION.

The Council has agreed to apply the Model Byelaws concerning the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air, and has applied to the Ministry for confirmation. The premises in the district have been visited in routine duty, and the Sanitary Inspector has brought to the notice of the shop-keepers the principals of hygiene associated with their business. It is intended when the byelaws are put into operation that each shop-keeper shall be acquainted with them, and it is further intended that information shall be conveyed to them both by person, and leaflet.

MILK SAMPLING.

7 samples of milk were taken and submitted for ^{phosphatase} test M.B.R.T., and G.P.I. test.

2 were submitted for phosphatase test and were satisfactory.

5 were submitted for M.B.R.T. test and were satisfactory.

5 were submitted for G.P.I. test and neither macroscopic nor microscopic evidence of tuberculi could be seen.

The 5 submitted for M.B.R.T. and G.P.I were raw or accredited.

ICE CREAM.

There has been a desire by shop-keepers to sell Ice Cream and applications have been received for premises to be registered for the sale of loose Ice Cream. The Council have agreed that the standard shall be reasonably high and have consented to register 4 premises for such sale. The total number of premises registered at the end of the year was 10.

During 1948 the laboratory reports indicated unsatisfactory samples and at the first available opportunity in 1949 sampling was carried out. 4 samples (loose variety) were taken and 3 were grade 4 and 1 grade 3. The premises were visited again and later 4 more samples were taken and these samples were graded as provisional grade 1.

The sampling is listed as follows :

<u>Sample 1.</u>	M.B.R.T.	0 hours.	Grade 4.
	B Coli	present in 3 tubes.	
<u>Sample 2.</u>	M.B.R.T.	$\frac{1}{2}$	Grade 3.
	B.Coli	absent.	
<u>Sample 3.</u>	M.B.R.T.	0 hours.	Grade 4.
	B.Coli	Present in 3 tubes.	
<u>Sample 4.</u>	M.B.R.T.	0 hours.	Grade 4.
	B.Coli	absent.	

Sample No. 1 was taken from a street trader.

Later Sampling.

Samples	1	} Methylene Blue was not discoloured at end of $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours. Provisional Grade 1.
	2	
	3	
	4	

FOOD CONDEMNED OTHER THAN MEAT AT SLAUGHTER-HOUSE.

73 tins and containers of food.
3 stone of smoked fillets.

	52-lbs.
	<u>42-lbs.</u>
Total	<u>92-lbs.</u>

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED. AT THE SLAUGHTER HOUSE.

	Cattle.	Calves.	Sheep & Lambs.	Pigs.
No.killed (if known)	1762	999	3156	106
No.inspected.	1762	999	3156	106

All diseases except
Tuberculosis.

Whole carcasses condemned.	2	8		
Tuberculosis only.	20			1

Total weight of carcasses.	10979	lbs.		
Total weight of organs.	16018	lbs.		
Total	26997	lbs.	Condemned.	

Percentage of Cattle affected with T.B. 14.67 (this percentage covers a period of 4 months only)

ADULTERATION.

The Sampling Authority is the Flintshire County Council and I am indebted to Mr. E. Lewis, County Sanitary Inspector, for the following particulars of the samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, in the Urban District of Connah's Quay for the year 1949.

Article.	No.of samples taken.	Genuine.	Not Genuine.
Milk	15	10	5
Butter	1	1	
Sausages	3	3	
Jam Tarts	1	1	
Tea Seed Oil	1	1	
Cooking Oil	1	1	
Ice Cream	1	1	
Medicinal Paraffin	1	1	
Ginger Cordial	1	1	
Potato Crisps	1	1	
Cake	1	1	
Flour	1	1	
Salad Cream	1	1	
Total	29	24	5

The 5 milk samples had slight fat deficiencies and a warning letter was sent to each vendor.

SHELLFISH (Molluscan).

There are no shellfish beds in the Area.

SECTION F.

PREVALANCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES GENERAL.

Scarlet Fever cases that occur in houses where satisfactory isolation can be obtained are kept at home. All others are sent to Hospital, and the authorities there co-operate in sending home uncomplicated cases as soon as possible. Premises and contacts of infections were disinfected or destroyed, or provided with means of securing the result under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector. Bedding from deceased cases, particularly in cases of Pulmonary T.B. was destroyed under the Sanitary Inspector's direction, payments being made to the owners of the bedding.

Notification Cases (Other than Tuberculosis) during 1949.

<u>Diseases.</u>	<u>Total Cases.</u>
Acute Primary Pnuemonia.	4
Diphtheria.	2
Scarlet Fever.	13
Measles.	6
Whooping Cough.	13
Meningitis C.S.	1
Erysipelas.	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	2
Total	<u>42</u>

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

No action was taken under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936 for the prevention of blindness or for the treatment of persons suffering from disease or injury to the eye.

TUBERCULOSIS.

No action has been necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925 (relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade), or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (relating to the compulsory removal of persons suffering from Tuberculosis to hospital.)

New Cases Notified.

<u>Pulmonary.</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
8	2	10

